

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS: The Friends of Old-Time Radio had its annual Convention on October 19th and 20th, at the Holiday Inn-North, Newark, NJ. Many celebrities were present. Those receiving awards were: FRANK BINGMAN, MARGARET DRAPER, HELENE DUMAS, EDDIE LAYTON, EDITH MEISER, BEATRICE PONS, STELLA REYNOLDS, ADELE RONSON, ARTHUR PETERSON, JOE DeSANTIS. Other guests present were: WARD BYRON, JACKSON BECK, FRANK CARLON, HELEN COULE, PAT HOSLEY, RAYMOND EDWARD JOHNSON, DORA JOHNSON, EVIE JUSTER, ANN LORING, ARNOLD MOSS, DICK OSGOOD, KEN ROBERTS, KEN & TERRY ROSS, ERNEST RICCA, MARGOT STEVENSON, SIDNEY SLON, ARTHUR TRACY, VICKI VOLA, DWIGHT WEIST, FLORENCE WILLIAMS, FRANK NELSON and VEOLA VONN. DANNY STILES from Station WNJR in New Jersey was also present. The guests socialized with fans throughout the afternoon and evening and re-enacted two radio shows.

The Convention started on Friday at 12:00 Noon when the dealers tables opened. There were 45 tables Fri & Sat...121 people attended the dinner, with another 30 in the afternoon. Video tapes of early TV shows that had been on radio were shown from 12-6. After cocktails & dinner, DICK OSGOOD gave a short presentation. MARY LOU WALLACE and WALT MITCHELL gave a preview of their bloopers. KAREN and JAY HICKERSON presented musical entertainment, trivia and sing-a-long. Post-dinner activities also included several guests who bravely dove into the role of announcer and faced the audience with their versions of the openings of some favorite shows. An assortment of results ensued--from amusing to the authentic, resulting in a lot of fun.

On Saturday, the Convention began at 9:00, with dealers & workshops. Workshops presented were: an Hour with DICK OSGOOD; Bloopers with WALT MITCHELL and MARY LOU WALLACE; Tape Decks with MANOS NOMIKOS; Trivia with JOHN ECCLES; Band Remotes with BELDON MENKUS; Westerns with DON ASTON and GARY YOGGY; Rehearsal for Acting and Sound Effects with FLORENCE WILLIAMS; a "Scary" reading by RAYMOND; Acting Workshop presentation with FLORENCE WILLIAMS; FRANK NELSON and VEOLA VONN entertained with "*Bickerson*" (not Hickerson) sketches and reminiscing; ANTHONY TOLLIN directed a re-creation of "*Mr. District Attorney*", with many of the original cast. Background music, integral to any production, was provided by EDDIE LAYTON. KEN and TERRY ROSS stimulated our auditory senses with their sound effects.

The day's events culminated in pre-dinner cocktails and a buffet feast for 231 persons. (Approx. 329 all told attended the afternoon program.) Due to the length of the entire evening program, we attempted to limit the additional features. ARTHUR TRACY sang two of his favorites; EDDIE LAYTON reminisced with "Name That Radio Theme" on the organ; ANTHONY TOLLIN with TERRY ROSS, gave a tribute to the late KENNY DELMAR. ANTHONY TOLLIN directed "*Grand Central Station*", with all original cast members. A Special Award was given to DON RICHARDSON for his untiring and unselfish work in providing old-time radio programming for 12 years to Central New York State; the Allen Rockford Award was given to JIM SNYDER and BOB BURNHAM for their writing achievements. The guests mentioned above received their awards. JACKSON BECK (whose voice you hear on countless TV & radio commercials), and who has been present at all our conventions, received a Special Award for his contributions to radio--yesterday and today, and his continuing work and support of the Friends of Old-Time Radio. FRANK NELSON then expressed some closing thoughts.

I again want to thank all the guests who were very gracious in granting interviews and giving their time to be with us. Special thanks to my co-chairpersons, JOE WEBB (coordinating the program & taping); STU WEISS (publicity); ANTHONY TOLLIN (coordinating & directing the shows and arranging for rides), and to the rest of the Committee, especially BARBARA and DAVE DAVIES and RON LACKMANN who manned the registration desk which allowed me, for the first time, in 9 years, to see the Convention from the "other side", to RON BARNETT, BOB BURNHAM, GARY KRAMER, BILL NADEL, KEN PILETIC, DAVE SIEGEL, and to our official and unofficial photographers ADRIENNE TOLLIN and BOB BURCHETTE.

1984-1985
CONVENTION - '84: To receive audio tapes of the Convention, please send 6 reels, or \$12.00 to Joseph Webb, Box 268, Glen Cove, NY 11542. For previous years tapes send: 1983 - same as for 1984; 1982 - 4-1800' reels, or \$8.00; 1981, '80, '79, '78, '77, '76 - for each of these years, send 2 - 1800' reels or \$4.00. Tape used is Ampex 641 in new box sent 4th Class Special Handling.

To receive video tapes from Ken Piletic, 705 South Oltendorf Rd., Streamwood, Ill. 60103: (1) VHS only; (2) SLP speed; (3) send SASE to Ken for details.

Many letters & phone calls were received with much praise (& some suggestions) about our Convention from Tom Monroe, Adele Ronson, Lora Palmer, Fran Carlon, Evie Juster, Dick Osgood, Dave Easter, Robert Olsen, Phil Scott, Andy Blatt, Veola Vonn, Frank Nelson, Gary & Anna Jean Yoggy, Bob Burnham, Frank Bingman, Bob Burchette.

CONVENTION - '85: Dates are Oct. 11th and 12th (Columbus Day weekend), at the Holiday Inn-North, in Newark. This will be our 10th Annual Convention. Many ideas have been suggested; what follows are some of them. Let me know if you can add to this list as well as specific ways you can help:

1. Spread activities over Friday & Saturday rather than crowding everything in one afternoon, and to have only one major activity running at any one time unopposed.

2. Have special 10-year program with ads. Bob Burchette will handle this. Full page ads will be \$100; 1/2 page \$60; 1/4 page \$35; 1/8 page \$20. Ads will be typeset. For details contact Bob Burchette, Box 6176, Cincinnati, Oh. 45206. Booklet will be 8 1/2 x 11. All ads must be in by July 1st.

3. Dealers will only use back door to avoid congestion in lobby.

4. An area where attendees may chat with personalities -- also a separate personality registration area.

5. Refine seating arrangements for dinner. Have stage nearer middle of back wall where it was two years ago.

6. Show recreations suggested so far: Superman, Lone Ranger. Afternoon show kept more spontaneous without rehearsal. Shows would depend on stars invited.

7. We would like help in locating new personalities. Those on the East and West Coasts please approach new personalities and let me know if they might attend.

8. Workshops. Concentrate on true overview of radio. Resurrect some we have not had for a while; refine or eliminate some we have every year and examine new ones such as club-run workshops (Jack French - NARA - doing one on Tom Mix), etc. ...Overview of radio--either chronologically or by type of show...Escape... computerizing your collection...commercial...Americana through radio...Experimental shows (CBS workshops, etc.)...Panic Broadcast...Museum of Broadcasting...Bing Crosby...Benny/Allen Feud...Panel on Let's Pretend, Lone Ranger...Collecting for beginners & technical aspects of collecting...radio shows adapted from comics. The overview of radio would cover all kinds of shows with separate workshops for each one...If we were to do every workshop mentioned, our Convention would last 2 weeks. We have to choose the most effective ones, combining some where necessary.

FRIENDS OF OLD-TIME RADIO: The Friends of Old-Time Radio (FOTR) has two pins which it sold at its Convention. The lapel pin is \$4.25 (diameter 5/8 of an inch), and a larger version is \$5.25 (1-1/4 inches in diameter). The words "Friends of Old-Time Radio" encircle an engraved radio in its center. If you want to order, send checks to me. All monies received will go toward our 10th Convention next year.

[] IF BOX IS CHECKED, \$8 IS DUE FOR ANOTHER YEAR

IN FOND MEMORY: NEIL HAMILTON, Sep. 24, 85; well-known actor...ADRIAN MURPHY, Aug 29, 79; former president of CBS Radio...SHELLY MANNE, Sep. 26, 64; jazz drummer...CLETE ROBERTS, Sep 30, 73; newscaster; appeared on 2 episodes of MASH...CLYDE COOK, Aug 13, 92; comedian & char. actor...LANCE TAYLOR, SR., Sep 6, 69; actor...FRANK SATENSTEIN, Sep 3, 59; TV director...PAUL ASHLEY, Sep 3, 71; puppeteer...ALBERT COHEN, Oct 4, 81; film producer & writer...VINCENT J. DESANTIS, Sep 15, 74; saxophonist with big bands...DON RENO, Oct 17, 58; "King of the 5-String Banjo"...H. BRUCE HUMBERSTONE, Oct. 82; film director...KEN CARPENTER, Oct 16, 84; veteran radio & TV personality...FREDERICK BRISSON, Oct 8, 71; stage and film producer...LUCKY HUMBERSTONE, Oct. 11, 81; veteran film director...ALBERTA HUNTER, Oct 18, 89; well-known jazz singer...JON-ERIK HEXUM, Oct 18, 26; actor...PEGGY ANN GARNER, Oct 16, 52; well-known actress...MURIEL PEARCE, Oct 13, 85; stage, film actress...DAVID GORCEY, Oct 29, 63; one of original "Dead End Kids"...JAMES PETRILLO, Oct 23, 92; former President of AFM...WALTER WOOLF KING, Oct 24, 88; singer; stage & film actor...BUDD JOHNSON, Oct 20, 73; saxophonist & arranger...ROD WARREN, Oct 22, 53; TV writer...JOHNNY LEE WILLS, Oct 25, 72; western bandleader...JUNE DUPREZ, Oct 30, 66; actress...FRANCIA WHITE, Oct 22, 74; radio singing personality...FLORENCE VAN DEVENTER (Florence Rinard), Oct 18, 82; panelist on 20 Questions...MARIO GALLO, Oct 30, 61; actor...JACK WRATHER, Nov 12, 66; film & TV producer...SUDIE BOND, Nov 10, 56; film TV, stage actress...MERLE EARLE, Nov 4, 95; TV & commercial actress...GEORGE MATHEWS, Nov 14, 73; stage, screen & TV actor...VIC DICKERSON, Nov 16, 78; big-band jazz trombonist...JOHN FOX, Nov 9, 60; char. actor.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: Return With Us Now; November. Article on shows with Bob Hope...NARA NEWS, Autumn, articles on Agnes Moorehead. Sherlock Holmes on Radio by Edith Meiser; Digger O'Dell...Collectrix is a magazine guide to books about collecting antiques & collectibles. Subscription is \$5.00 for 3 issues a year. Write to Collectrix (Alida Rouchvarg), 146 Front St., Hampstead, NY 11550...Memories (Buffalo Club), Fall; articles on You Bet Your Life & Charlie McCarthy.

LOGS: First supplement to Collectors Log now available (#75-85). Send me a SASE for copy.

HERE & THERE: New Friends & Returnees: The Fiorello H. LaGuardia archives is looking for all material on the LaGuardia years; specifically live recordings or oral histories relating to NYC from 1934-1946. If you wish to contribute, please write Dr. Richard Lieberman, FHL Archives, LaGuardia Community College, 31-10, Thomson Ave., L.I.C., NY 11101...Tom Boory, 36 S. Balph Ave., Pittsb., Pa. 15202...Jim Elbin, 7668 Co. Rd. 19, Fredericktown, Oh 43019...Brian Hochberg, 2935 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11235...William Hine, 67 Sill Ln., Old Lyme, Ct. 06371...Henriette Klawans, 3900 N. Lake Shore Dr. #23K, Chicago, Ill. 60613...Mitchell Weisberg, 620 Greenbrier Ct., Fredericksburg, Va. 22401...Robert Everest, 1016 Union Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21216...Lance Hunt, 152 Allen St., Buffalo, NY 14201...Mel Goldstein, 39 First St., Garden City Pk, NY 11040, wants all material on Let's Pretend...John Darak, Box 1015, Paterson, NJ 07533...Maury Anderson, 2147 Penny Ln, Napa, Cal. 94559...John Loughery, English Dept., Columbia Grammer School, 5 W. 93rd St., NYC, NY 10025, doing biography of Willard H. Wright (SS Van Dine), creator of Philo Vance. John would like any info. on the radio show, plus he wants to talk with anyone on the show...Kathleen O'Connor, Courtney House, 55 W 14th St., #3M, NYC, NY 10011...Bernard Sweeney, Box 276, Stockholm, NJ 07460...Fred Province, 1647 Enfield St., Spring Valley, Ca. 92077. Fred and I go back to 1970. Fred wants several Sherlock Holmes, The Missing DaVinci, Murder In the Wax Works, The Cardboard Box, The Missing Dancer...Robert Reger, 3942 Point Clear, Missouri City, TX 77459...Jim Bergquist, 27 Overbrook Dr., Monsey, NY 10952, wants tapes of Axis broadcasters during WWII such as Radio Charlie; Lord Haw-Haw; Axis Sally; various Tokie Roses, Ezra Pound...OTR premiums posters are offered by OTR Premiums Posters, Box 1262, Providence, RI, 02901. No name is mentioned. Anyone know who is selling them?...David Zwengler, 6 Lake Ave., #5B, E. Brunswick, NJ 08816...Howard Lapin, 934 South St., Phila., Pa. 19147, wants Amos & Andy 1929-1940...Jeffrey Muller, 439 Faltoule Ave., Roselle Pk, NJ 07204.

HERE & THERE: Old Friends: Lawrence Rao, 1213 E. 88th St., Brooklyn, NY 11236, is collaborating with Roy Meader on a biography of Fred Allen. Any information at all would be appreciated (articles, tapes, scripts). Also any info on Portland Hoffa. If anyone knew Fred Allen personally, please contact Lawrence...Lee Allman 132 St. Andrews Ct., Mt. Laure, NJ 08054, missed The Lone Ranger memorial on Sep 27th on WCAU, Phil. Can anyone send her a copy?...Art Chimes, 1925 16th St., NW (#601), Washington, DC 20009, says he's running out of shelf space and needs to sell many of his hundreds of reels of OTR. He'll be glad to send you a list (37¢ postage appreciated)...Bob Proctor, Box 362, Saline, Mich. 48176, has resumed trading and seeks contacts from old friends, particularly interested in good fidelity shows at 7½, close to source. Bob Proctor is also looking for info. on the whereabouts of Dave Howe. Does anyone know?...Frank Bresee is celebrating his 18th anniversary of AFRS Golden Days of Radio. This is the current longest-running variety show on radio...Barbara Schwarz, 7232 N. Keystone Ave., Lincolnwood, Ill. 60646, must sell out-of-print books and many related items about show biz personalities who performed on radio. Send for list (1 stamp please) or send wants with SASE...Fred Shay, 30 Willow St., Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856, has Superman & Hop Harrigan discs for sale...Ed Carr, 216 Shaner St., Boyertown, Pa. 19512, found book & some cassettes at his dealer table at Convention. Will return for \$2.00 postage & identification. Also, Ed looking for books dealing with all people in radio from custodians to engineers to actors...Bob Burnham is selling I Love OTR T-shirts for \$8.50 per shirt. Indicate med., large or X-large. They are 50% cotton, 50% polyester - professional imprinted. Send to Bob at Box 39522, Redford, Mich. 48239. Also, there were several things wrong in newspaper article about Bob mentioned in last issue. Bob has 30,000 programs - not reels...Thom Salome thanks all who bought from him at our Convention. All monies were used to buy more equipment. If there were any problems write Thom at 354 22nd St., Brooklyn, NY, 11215. If you want a (free) catalog, send Thom a large SASE with \$1.00 in postage (after Dec. 15th) --catalog will have 1,000 reels for \$5.00 each...Dick Osgood writes about the Unicorn Hunters who recently put on a spoof of The Long Ranger, Green Hornet & Sgt. Preston, at their annual bash at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island in Michigan. Dick did not go because he felt it would be hypocritical to make fun of Fran Striker's work...Larry DeSalvatore, 25 Sachem, New Britain, Ct. 06053, wants tapes of Prairie Home Companion...Rusty Wolfe, Box 21428, Chattanooga, Tn. 37421, has several Xmas shows and other shows for sale...John Barber, 1807½ Burgundy, N. Orleans, La. 70116, still wants Arthur Godfrey on 12" AFTRS discs; AG's signature LP Jazz for the People; Interviews with Godfrey and Little Godfreys from mags, newspapers, radio.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: Art Chimes mentions that Each Sunday, starting Oct. 7th, for 26 weeks over Voice of America, Charlton Heston will host a dramatic series featuring prominent stage & film stars about moments which shaped American history. Himan Brown will direct. The programs will be rebroadcast over NPR starting in November...Dave Davies broadcasts OTR on Fri. nites at 7:30 over WECS in Willimantic, Ct. ...RK0 General, in honor of John A. Gambling's 25th year as morning host of WOR in New York, gave a grant of \$223,517 to the Museum of Broadcasting, in New York. This will enable the museum to add an associate curator of radio & a radio cataloguer to its staff...The Edge of Night will go off the air Dec. 28th, after 28 years on TV.

Write if you get work and hang by your thumbs!

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\$ 8.00